

Applicant : Lucien Alfred Couvillon, Jr.
Appl. No. : 10/678,337
Examiner : Jaworski
Docket No. : 701470.4069

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An ultrasound coating for enhancing ultrasonic visualization of a medical device, comprising

an adhesion layer adhering to a surface of the medical device; and

~~a contrast agent layer overlaying~~ ultrasound microbubbles directly on the
adhesion layer,~~the contrast agent layer comprising ultrasound microbubbles.~~
2. (Original) The ultrasound coating of claim 1, wherein the microbubbles vibrate in response to an incident ultrasound wave to generate an harmonic vibration.
3. (Original) The ultrasound coating of claim 1, wherein the microbubbles vibrate in response to an incident ultrasound wave to generate a non-harmonic vibration.
4. (Original) The ultrasound coating of claim 1, wherein the microbubbles vibrate in response to an incident ultrasound wave to generate both harmonic and non-harmonic vibrations.
5. (Original) The ultrasound coating of claim 1, wherein the microbubbles vibrate in response to an incident ultrasound wave to generate a sub-harmonic vibration.
6. (Original) The ultrasound coating of claim 1, wherein the adhesion layer comprises a pressure sensitive adhesive.

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7. (Original) The ultrasound coating of claim 1, wherein the adhesion layer comprises silicone.

8. (Original) The ultrasound coating of claim 1, wherein the adhesion layer comprises polymer.

9. (Original) The ultrasound coating of claim 1, wherein the adhesion layer comprises hydrogel.

10. (Original) The ultrasound coating of claim 1, wherein the adhesion layer comprises DOPA (dihydroxyphenylalanine).

11. – 24. (Cancelled)

25. (Original) A medical device adapted to be inserted into a patient's body, the medical device having at least a portion coated by the ultrasound coating of claim 1.

26. (Cancelled).

27. (Original) The medical device of claim 25 wherein the medical device is a stent.

28. (Original) The medical device of claim 25 wherein the medical device is a catheter.

29. (Original) The medical device of claim 25 wherein the medical device is a prosthesis.

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30. (Original) The medical device of claim 26 wherein the medical device is a stent.

31. (Original) The medical device of claim 26 wherein the medical device is a catheter.

32. (Original) The medical device of claim 26 wherein the medical device is a prosthesis.

33. (new) The ultrasound coating of claim 1, wherein the ultrasound microbubbles have hydrophilic outer surfaces, and the adhesion layer absorbs moisture to adhere the microbubbles directly to the adhesion layer via hydrogen bonding.

34. (new) The ultrasound coating of claim 35, wherein the adhesion layer comprises a pressure sensitive adhesive.